

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1362

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MOPS, AO; BR

SUBJECT: FURTHER SILVEIRA COMMENTS ON ANGOLA

1. IN THE COURSE OF A DISCUSSION LAST WEEK OF OTHER SUBJECTS, FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA VOLUNTEERED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON ANGOLA.

A. AGOSTINHO NETO'S FEBRUARY 4 SPEECH WAS VERY IMPORTANT IN ITS NATIONALIST TONE AND IN ITS RESERVED TREATMENT OF CUBA. THE FACT THAT HE HAD CITED SUPPORT FROM YUGOSLAVIA BEFORE THAT OF CUBA WAS SIGNIFICANT.

B. AGOSTINHO NETO IS A MODERATE WHO NEEDS COUNTERS TO THE RADICALS IN THE MPLA AND THAT IS WHY HE IS SEEKING GOOD RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE.

C. ANGOLA IS NOT SATELLIZABLE.

D. "THE CUBANS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE" AS ANGOLAN NATIONALISM EXERTS ITS FORCE.

E. THE CARD OF NATIONALISM MUST BE PLAYED MORE ENERGETICALLY (THE IMPLICATION BEING THAT OUTSIDERS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGING AND APPEALING TO ANGOLAN NATIONALIST SENTIMENTS).

F. THE BRAZILIAN UN DELEGATION WAS APPROACHED IN LATE JANUARY-EARLY FEBRUARY BY UNITA REPRESENTATIVES WHO REFERRED TO UNITA AFFINITIES WITH THE MPLA AND THE LACK THEREOF WITH THE FNLA. THE BRAZILIAN SIDE MERELY LISTENED. EVENTUALLY THE MPLA IS GOING TO HAVE TO INVITE THE INTELLECTUALS OF UNITA INTO THE GOVERNMENT.

G. SILVEIRA WANTS TO GO OVER WITH THE SECRETARY ALL

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THE BRAZILIAN CONTACTS WITH ANGOLAN ELEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS

GIVEN TO THE GOB BY THEM. IN ALL HIS CORRESPONDENCE WITH SILVEIRA, AGOSTINHO NETO HAS BEEN "CORRECT" AND UN-DOCTRINAIRE (AS HAS THE MOZAMBICAN FOREIGN MINISTER).

H. AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, "WE (AND SILVEIRA MEANT BRAZIL, THE US AND OTHERS) SHOULD MOVE". THE CONTECT WAS SUCH THAT SILVEIRA CLEARLY MEANT: MOVE TO OFFER AGOSTINHO NETO ALTERNATIVES TO THE COMMUNISTS.

2. COMMENT: THE THRUST OF SILVEIRA'S REMARKS, WHICH ARE REPORTED IN THE SEQUENCE IN WHICH THEY WERE MADE AND WHICH IN PART REPEAT HIS STANDARD JUSTIFICATORY POSITIONS, SUGGESTS TO ME THAT HE MAY BE PREPARING A PTICH TO THE SECRETARY FOR SOME QUIET CONCERTING OF BRAZILIAN AND US ACTIONS TOWARD ANGOLA. I SPECULATE THAT, IF HE DOES HAVE SOMETHING DEFINITE IN MIND, SILVEIRA WOULD LOOK TO US TO SUPPLY MOST OF THE FINANCIAL WHEREWITHAL IMPLICIT IN THE REFERENCE TO "MOVING" BUT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT BRAZIL WOULD BE HIGHLY VISIBLE.
CRIMMINS

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